

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated May 2, 2007 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 6 and 13 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 6-13 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 6 and 13 are objected to allegedly because they are not distinctively claimed. Applicants respectfully traverse these objections for the following reasons.

Applicants respectfully submit that the added features in claims 6 and 13 in the previous amendment are disclosed in FIGs. 5 and 7 of the present application. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claims 6 and 13 be withdrawn.

In addition, claims 6-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Related Art (ARA) in view of Dingwall et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,307,188). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 6 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 6 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "...wherein the light shielding layer blocks a portion of the light traveling to four peripheral sides of the lower polarizer for minimizing constructive interference at a peripheral portion of the LCD device regardless of an assembly tolerance between the backlight device and the LCD panel..." None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6 and claims 7-12, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Claim 13 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 13 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "...wherein the light shielding layer blocks a portion of the light traveling to the peripheral portion of the lower polarizer regardless of an assembly tolerance between the backlight device and the LCD panel..." None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 13 is allowable over the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that because the color patches in Dingwall et al. are formed in the window of the black mask 235, the cited references including Dingwall et al. and ARA fail to teach or suggest the aforementioned features recited in claims 6 and 13.

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: 1 August 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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